BENGALURU, FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 15 | Humidity 80% Mainly Clear sky Sensex 82,307 | Nifty 25,289 | Gold 1,54,310 | Silver 3,25,000 | Dollar 91.63 | Euro 107.80 | GBP 122.94

CITY / PAGE 2

WILD THINGS

Number of human-wildlife conflict cases in and around Bannerghatta National Park has risen by nearly 50% with crop damage being most extensive

CITY / PAGE 6

BREAKING BANK

Due to faulty slope, sewage unable to reach main drain and flowing directly into Seegehalli Lake, warn locals, who struggle to cope with stench in area

Number of thefts on the rise with 30,876 cases registered in state in 2025 of which a majority are in Bengaluru — but what makes this statistic worse is that a whopping 76% of these cases remain unresolved

THE ONES THAT GOT AWAY

Of 1,673 house thefts, only 319 cracked and just 1,813 of 8,413 vehicle theft cases solved

Sridhar.Vivan@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

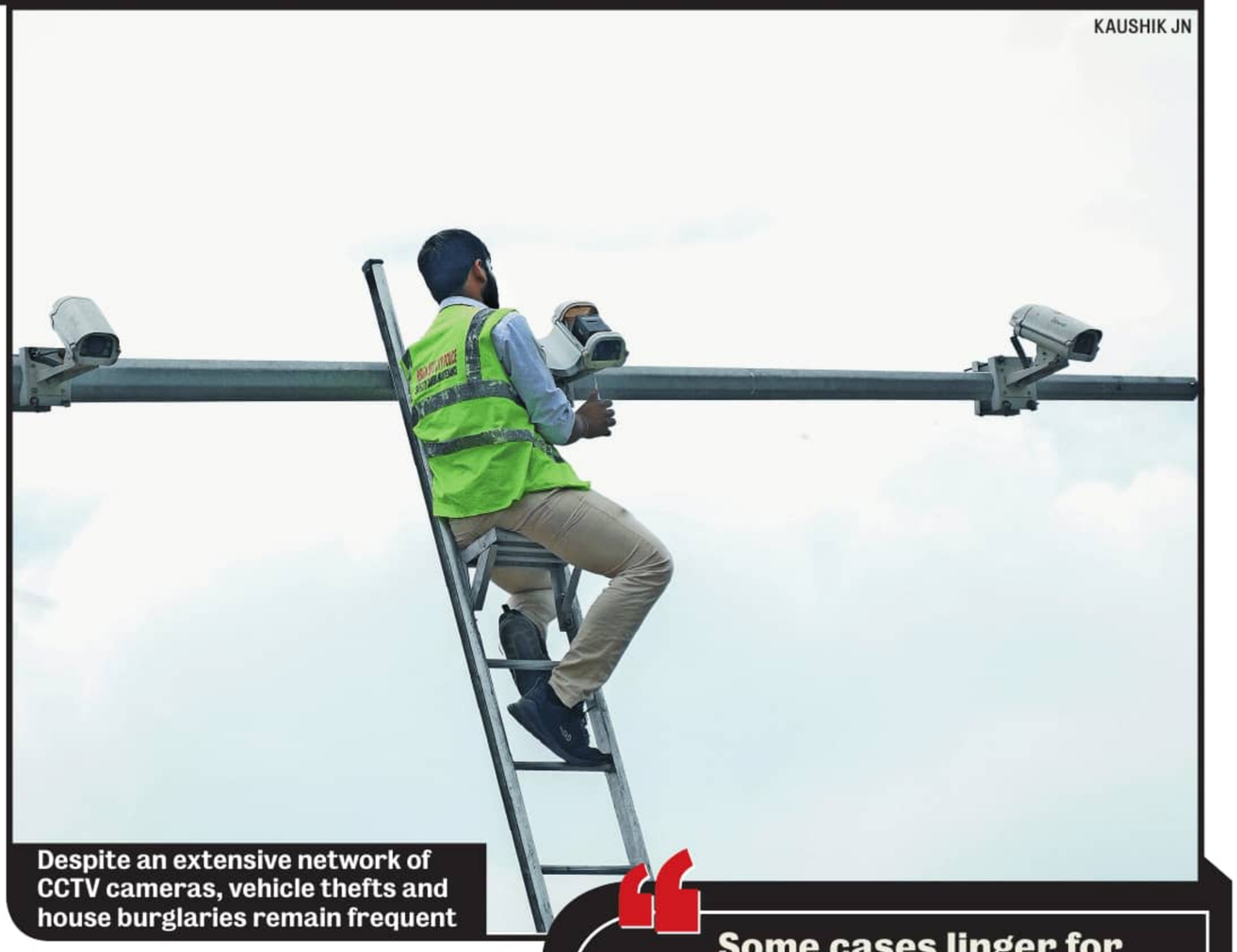
Theft, burglary, snatching, and vehicle thefts have skyrocketed across Karnataka over the past three years, leaving police scrambling to keep pace with the rising crime wave. In 2025 alone, 30,876 cases were registered across the state, but only 7,236 cases, or less than 24%, were solved. The remaining 76% remain unresolved, raising serious questions about the effectiveness of law enforcement. One senior officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, "Despite repeated arrests, theft hasn't stopped. Some cases linger for years, and police simply cannot crack them. Poverty, unemployment, and the desire for wealth drive many into crime, and our systems aren't addressing the root causes."

Over half of all theft cases in Karnataka originate from Bengaluru, making the city the state's crime epicentre. Despite an extensive network of CCTV cameras, vehicle thefts continue to rise, and house burglaries remain frequent. In 2023, police solved 17,057 cases and secured convictions in 927, while in 2024, out of 40,628 registered cases, 15,815 were solved, but only 543 offenders were convicted. The trend reflects a widening gap between crime occurrence and successful prosecution.

Data from 2025 shows a grim picture. Robbery cases numbered 120, with 64 solved, snatching stood at 529 with 209 solved, and house theft recorded 1,673 cases with only 319 resolved. General theft dominated the figures at 15,799 cases, of which 3,990 were solved.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

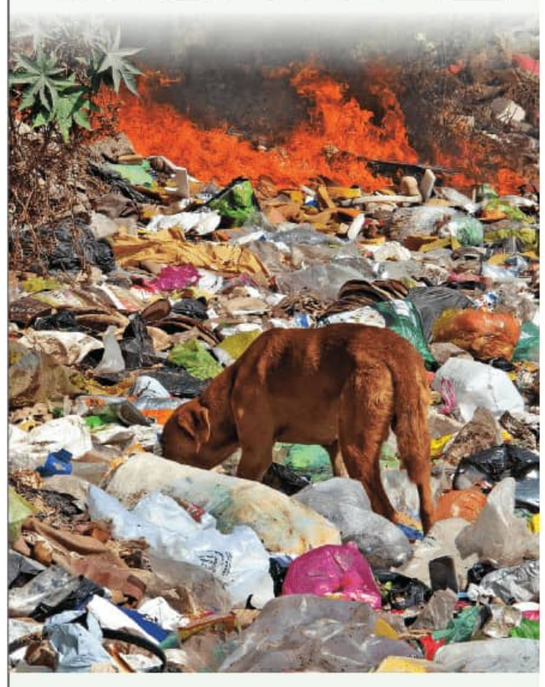
KAUSHIK JN



Despite an extensive network of CCTV cameras, vehicle thefts and house burglaries remain frequent

> **"Some cases linger for years, and police simply cannot crack them. Poverty, unemployment, and the desire for wealth drive many into crime, and our systems aren't addressing the root causes** —Police official

TRASH MUDDLE



BSWML's order threatening action against bulk waste generators who are not tying up with authorised vendor termed unfair, impractical

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) is sending notices to apartment complexes in the city for their failure to engage an authorised agency for waste management, a move that many apartment dwellers are calling 'monopolistic'.

According to BSWML, notices are being issued as the apartments continue to hand over their daily waste to unauthorised vendors, which violates the Solid Waste Management Rule of 2016 and the SWM bye-law of 2020.

As per the SWM bye-law, bulk generators are required to hand over their waste only to a waste processor authorised by BSWML. In a public notice issued by BSWML a few months ago, the apartments and other bulk waste generators were directed to tie up with the authorised vendor for scientific waste management.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Poetry passion

Phoenix Mall of Asia will be hosting acclaimed poet and performer Priya Malik's much-loved India tour, Ishq Hai. Through poetry, narration, and song, Priya Malik weaves stories of innocence, desire, healing, and hope. **Where: Phoenix Mall of Asia, Yelahanka; When: January 24, 8 pm**

02 Rhythm reimagined

Windmills presents a two night live performance by Aditya Prakash Ensemble, working at the intersection of raga, improvisation, chamber music, and experimental song, drawing from Carnatic traditions while also engaging with jazz, folk, and contemporary forms. **Where: Windmills Craftworks, Whitefield; When: January 23 and 24**

03 Serving stories

Cooks & Books brings together food, literature, and cultural dialogue, with its new edition putting the spotlight on Dalit Kitchens of Marathwada by Shahu Patole. The intimate gathering invites the city's food and literary lovers to explore one of India's most powerful culinary narratives. **Where: Lightroom Bookstore, Cooke Town; When: January 23, 6.30 pm**

04 Harmony unbound

The Indian Music Experience Museum (IME) is celebrating India's 76th Republic Day with a musical concert 'Rang Aman Ke' performed by Mumbai-based Indian folk band and theatre collective Yalgaar Lok Sanskriti Manch. **Where: Indian Music Experience Museum, JP Nagar; When: January 23, 7 pm**

05 Musical treat

This season, Banyan Tree Events marks a special milestone as their flagship festival, TCS Ruhaniyat – Seeking the Divine, completes 25 glorious years. More than a festival, Ruhaniyat is a soulful journey through the verses of mystics and saints, carried forward by extraordinary artists from across India and beyond. **Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel; When: January 24, 6.15 pm**

Wildlife encounters on the rise

Data reveals surge in human-wildlife conflict cases over years, with notable rise in crop damage and human and cattle deaths; experts say science-based interventions may help

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The number of human-wildlife conflict cases in and around Bannerghatta National Park (BNP) has gone up by nearly 50 per cent.

Data from the Karnataka Forest Department shows that while 1,660 such cases were recorded in BNP between April 2023 and March 2024, this number went up to 2,455 between April 2024 and March 2025. Out of these, while 1,931 cases were related to crop damage, 162 cattle deaths and 4 human deaths were reported in 2024-25.

In 2023-24, as many as 1,377 crop damage cases were reported, along with 86 cattle deaths and 2 human deaths. With this surge, the total ex-gratia paid to those sustaining damage has also skyrocketed. While a little over Rs 1.43 crore as ex-gratia was paid last year, the total amount paid in 2024-25 was Rs 2.28 crore, a 60 per cent surge.

According to experts, an increase in wildlife population can directly be linked to a surge in conflict cases. They say, while conservation efforts have led to increase in wildlife population, forest areas have remained more or less constant, leading to spillover into villages and human settlements abutting them.

This, when coupled with an increase in resource needs, contributes to conflict cases. Change in land use in the region, driven by the agrarian economy, has also led to the surge.

"Human–wildlife conflict is closely linked to land-use change. While some wildlife populations have increased, forest cover has declined, pushing animals to seek food in human-dominated landscapes. As a result, crops and livestock increasingly substitute natural forage. In the Bannerghatta National Park landscape, the shift from predominantly tribal livelihoods to settled agrarian systems has led to an expansion of farmlands. Many of these farms cultivate high-nutrient crops that act as strong attractants for wildlife, including elephants," said Avinash Krishnan, National Director, Chief (Conservation Science), A Rocha India.

Experts say conservation efforts have led to rise in wildlife population, while forest areas have remained more or less constant, leading to spillover into nearby human settlements

The apparent rise in conflict incidents is also partly attributable to improved reporting. Greater awareness of government ex-gratia schemes, coupled with simplified and digitised reporting mechanisms, has encouraged more affected households to formally report conflict events.

Experts say that science-based interventions have the potential to reduce human-wildlife conflict. "In the long term, science-based interventions implemented globally demonstrate potential to reduce human–wildlife conflict. Managing wildlife population densities at the landscape scale is critical. Alongside measures such as immunocontraception, strategic translocation from over-saturated habitats to areas with fragmented populations may help rebalance ecological pressures," added Krishnan.

Immunocontraception is a humane way to control the population of various wildlife species. The process uses the body's immune system to build protein around the egg to prevent fertilization and thus bring down the population.

Drone monitoring as leopards stray closer

As summer sets in, the Forest Department is turning to technology to tackle rising human–wildlife conflict in Bengaluru Rural. Drones are set to become the new watchkeepers over scrub forests and hill tracts around Doddaballapur and Nelamangala, where leopards and bears are increasingly venturing into villages in search of food and water. The aim is simple: spot animal movement early and act before panic or damage sets in. Alongside drones, the department is beefing up ground response by buying more capture cages and training frontline staff in rescue operations. Two leopards have already been safely relocated to Bannerghatta in recent months. With compensation for cattle loss, safety kits for staff and sharper surveillance, officials hope to keep both villagers and wildlife out of harm's way this summer.

Transport Department issues new guidelines to curb illegal FC issuance

The Karnataka Transport Department has issued fresh guidelines to prevent illegal issuance of vehicle fitness certificates (FCs) and announced that the M-Fit mobile app will be implemented from February for FC renewals. The move comes after cases of FCs being issued beyond legal limits, including for Gujarat-registered vehicles, were taken seriously by Transport Minister Ramalingareddy. Until the app is fully rolled out, all FC renewals must strictly follow the new manual procedures.

Under the guidelines, senior vehicle inspectors must personally verify vehicles coming for FC renewal at designated registration office locations. They are required to take complete photographs of the vehicle along with GPS-stamped date, time and location using a photo-location app, and send it via WhatsApp to the prescribed number. Office heads will then cross-check the daily submissions against the vehicle software and prepare reports. At least 20 per cent of vehicles visiting for FC renewal must be physically inspected by registration authorities or office heads. All transport commissioners are directed to ensure full compliance with the issued instructions. — BMB

Paid parking to roll out from mid-February?

Finding a free parking spot in Bengaluru is about to get tougher and costlier. The city's civic bodies are rolling out paid parking across key roads and neighbourhoods, with towing squads ready to act against haphazardly parked vehicles. Bikes will cost Rs 15 an hour, cars Rs 30, and park-all-day options will not come cheap either. From Commercial Street to Sampige Road, and from Hebbal to Jayanagar, marked bays will soon decide where you can stop.

Officials say the move will ease congestion at traffic hotspots and bring order to chaotic streets, but citizens are not convinced. Many have called the rates steep and fear towing will add to daily hassles. Even contractors are hesitant, pushing for lower licence fees. Still, with tenders moving fast, Bengaluru's pay-and-park era looks set to arrive by mid-February, whether motorists like it or not. — BMB

Chinnaswamy Stadium gets makeover for enhanced safety

Cricket will return to the M Chinnaswamy Stadium, but not before a sweeping makeover aimed at safety and crowd management. With the state's conditional nod in place, the KSCA has kicked off renovation work that could cross Rs 10 crore, due for completion by February-end. The iconic main gate will shut, ticket counters have been razed, and entry will move to fewer, airport-style access points with digital-only tickets. Ambulances and fire engines will get direct access to the field through widened gates, while gardens will be shifted and select trees trimmed to create more open space around the venue. Officials said that modifications also include ramps, possible escalators, and tighter crowd flow inside the stadium, all designed to ensure matches are smoother, safer and more organised than before. — BMB

CRIME FILES

Woman arrested for alleged blackmail

The City Crime Branch (CCB) police have arrested a woman, identified as Spoorthi, for allegedly blackmailing the head of a prestigious monastery in the state and extorting money from him.

According to the police, Spurthi contacted the 'swamiji' about five months ago, introducing herself as a student from Tiptur. Over time, she allegedly gained his confidence and later began threatening him, demanding money and warning that she would kill him if he failed to comply.

The 'swamiji' reportedly paid her Rs 4.5 lakh during a visit to Bengaluru. However, the accused continued to harass him and allegedly demanded an additional Rs 1 crore. Unable to bear the constant threats, the Swamiji approached the CCB and lodged a formal complaint.

Police said this is not the first time the Swamiji has faced such a situation. Two years ago, he was targeted in a similar honeytrap case, in which three persons were arrested for demanding Rs 6 crore.

In the present case, the Swamiji has obtained a court order restraining the circulation of any photos or videos related to him. **–BMB**

Airport staffer arrested for sexually harassing South Korean woman

A 32-year-old business woman from South Korea was allegedly sexually harassed by an airport staffer at the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) on January 19 while she was preparing to board a flight to Korea. The accused, identified as Affaann Ahmed, has been arrested by the Kempegowda Airport police.

According to the complaint filed by the victim, Kim Sung Krung, she had cleared central industrial security force (CISF) frisking and immigration checks when a male staffer approached her at around 10.45 am and claimed there was an issue with her check-in baggage, stating that a "beeping sound" was detected.
On the pretext of a personal inspection, he escorted her to the men's washroom.

Inside, the staffer allegedly touched her chest and back without her consent, and asked her to turn around before touching her from behind. When the woman resisted, the accused abruptly stopped and allowed her to leave. The woman immediately alerted airport security personnel, who detained the suspect and handed him over to the police.

Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh said that based on a complaint lodged at the Bengaluru airport police station, a man has been arrested on charges of outraging the modesty of a woman. The woman has since left the country. The CCTV footage confirmed the same. **–BMB**

Customs seize drugs worth over ₹41 crore at airport

In two major drug busts on the same day, Bengaluru Customs officers at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) arrested two passengers and seized narcotics worth more than ₹41 crore on Wednesday.

In the first case, customs officials at Terminal 2 intercepted a passenger arriving from Bangkok and recovered 8.98 kg of hydroponic ganja concealed in the baggage. The contraband is valued at ₹3.14 crore in the international market.

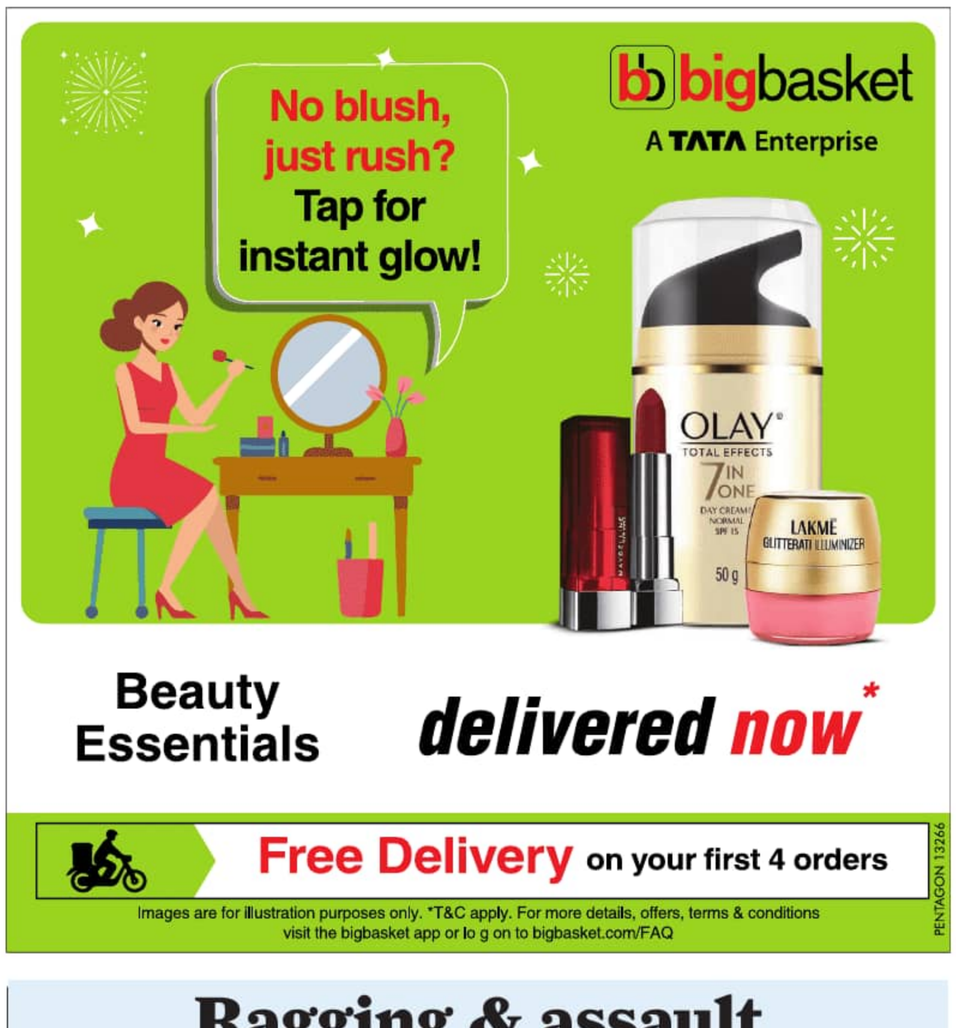
In a separate operation, another passenger arriving from São Paulo was intercepted and found to be carrying 7.72 kg of cocaine, valued at an estimated ₹38.60 crore. The cocaine was allegedly concealed in a children's book to evade detection. **–BMB**

Ragging & assault

Devanahalli police officials have registered a case against 21 students, arrested three of them and issued notices to 18 in connection with a violent ragging incident near a college, based on a complaint filed by a staff member.

In his complaint dated January 16, Midun (34), the staffer stated that first-year BBA and BCA students had been subjected to ragging for two days on January 14 nd 15 by a group of senior students, who allegedly forced them to bring cigarettes, books and drinks and issued verbal threats on campus.

On January 15, Midun and five colleagues went to a tea stall on Baichapur Road behind the college to question the accused students. The accused and some outsiders allegedly attacked the complainant's group using iron rods, sticks and hands. **–BMB**


No blush, just rush? Tap for instant glow!
bigbasket
A TATA Enterprise
OLAY
TOTAL EFFECTS
7 IN ONE
LAKMÉ
GLITTERATI ILLUMINIZER
50 g
Beauty Essentials
delivered now*
Free Delivery on your first 4 orders
Images are for illustration purposes only. *T&C apply. For more details, offers, terms & conditions visit the bigbasket app or log on to bigbasket.com/FAQ
PENTAGON 13266

www.durian.in
Your Season Of
Big Savings Begins Here
Barret
Sofa Set (3+2) Starting From ₹ 74,140/-
Sofas | Recliners | Dining | Modular Kitchens | Modular Wardrobes
Splendor
Recliners Starting From ₹ 29,100/-
Ripple
Beds Starting From ₹ 31,130/-
Durian®
SALE
UPTO
60%* OFF
ON HOME FURNITURE
LAST 4 DAYS LEFT!
THE DURIAN DIFFERENCE
5 Years Warranty
40 Years of Expertise
End-to-End Setup Support
Tailor-made for Indian Homes
EMI - Enjoy Bigger Savings Every Time.
AMERICAN EXPRESS
HDFC BANK
IDFC FIRST Bank
BAJAJ FINANCE
Powered by pine labs PAY LATER
Visit your nearest Durian store and welcome this New Year in comfort!
65+ Stores Across India
Durian Full Home Customisation, Modular Kitchens & Wardrobes Now Open in J. P. Nagar, 7975174258
JP NAGAR:
44/4, Kothanur Dinne Main Road, Bk Circle, 8th Phase, Bengaluru.
M.: 9902858564 / 9980941560, Store Timing :- 10 AM To 8 PM
SHIVAJI NAGAR:
No. 6, Venkataswamy Naidu Road, Tasker Town, Bengaluru.
M.: 9686118682 / 9731012101, Store Timing :- 10 AM To 8 PM
MARATHAHALLI:
90/6, Outer Ring Road, Near Innovative Multiplex, Bengaluru.
M.: 8657877192 / 9136151174, Store Timing :- 11 AM To 9 PM
T&C Apply*

Traders seek Budget reset as compliance, credit pressures intensify

Bangalore Cloth Merchants Association urges Centre to ease compliance, credit stress, e-commerce imbalance, seeking welfare fund support

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Traders urge fair competition,checks on e-commerce discounts, tax norms

Representing wholesale and retail markets, the association outlines budget priorities on GST simplification, credit, social security and fair competition measures to support trader livelihoods

The Bangalore Wholesale Cloth Merchants Association (BWCMA), one of the oldest and most representative trade bodies in Karnataka, has submitted a comprehensive set of suggestions to the Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, ahead of the forthcoming Union Budget 2026–27, seeking much-needed relief and structural support for traders across the country.

In a detailed memorandum, the Association flagged the growing pressures faced by small and medium traders, particularly in wholesale and retail markets, citing rising compliance costs, limited access to affordable credit, and uneven competition from large digital platforms. It said these challenges were affecting business sustainability and employment generation at the grassroots level.

A key demand was further simplification of the Goods and Services Tax regime. The Association sought permission for quarterly GST filings for traders with an annual turnover of up to ₹5 crore, along with waiver or reduction of late fees and penalties in cases of genuine delays. It also called for faster and fully automated GST refunds, especially for exporters and MSME traders, to ease liquidity stress.

On the financial front, BWCMA stressed the urgent need for easier access to working capital at reasonable interest rates. It recommended enhanced coverage under the Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs, interest subvention of 2–3% for retail and wholesale traders, and simplified loan documentation for traditional and small businesses that often struggle to meet formal banking requirements.

The memorandum also sought relief from what it described as excessive inspections and compliance burdens. It urged the government to curb the "inspector raj" by strengthening online and faceless compliance systems and ensuring that physical inspections are conducted only with prior approval and written justification.

Addressing concerns over market imbalance, the Association called for fair competition between online and offline businesses. It pressed for strict checks on predatory pricing and deep discounting by e-commerce platforms, and demanded uniform tax, compliance, and data-sharing norms across both digital and physical trade.

Among tax-related proposals, BWCMA requested an increase in the basic income tax exemption limit, an enhancement of the presumptive taxation threshold beyond ₹2 crore, and a reduction in the advance tax burden for small and medium traders.

Recognising the push towards digitalisation, the Association sought government support for point-of-sale machines, billing software, and other digital tools, along with subsidies for cybersecurity and digital compliance.

It also strongly advocated stronger social security measures, including improved pension and insurance schemes for traders and their employees. The Association proposed a National Traders Welfare Fund to provide crisis relief, support skill development, and modernise markets, along with a National Traders Pension Scheme assuring a minimum monthly pension of ₹10,000 after the age of 60.

BWCMA president Prakash Pirgal said traders remain a vital pillar of the Indian economy and employment ecosystem, and that meaningful budgetary support is essential to ensure their long-term sustainability and growth. He urged policymakers to recognise traders' contributions, ensure policy stability, and engage stakeholders regularly while framing reforms impacting markets nationwide.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER FOR HANDLOOMS

Sant Kabir Handloom Award and National Handloom Award for the year, 2025

Applications duly filled in the prescribed format are invited from the residents of India for the following categories of handloom awards for the year 2025 for their outstanding contribution in the field of Handloom sector. The details are given below:

Sl. No.	Name of awards	Category	Sub- Category	No. of Awards
01	Sant Kabir Handloom Award (SKHA)	Weaving	Weaving	03
			Exclusively for women weavers (Sant Kabir Handloom Award- Kamala Devi Chattopadhyay)	01
			Languishing Weaves	01
			Tribal Weaves	01
			Total (A)	**06**
02	National Handloom Award (NHA)	Weaving	Weaving	08
			Exclusively for women weavers (Sant Kabir Handloom Award- Kamala Devi Chattopadhyay)	02
			Young Weavers (age not more than 30 years)	01
			Divyang Weavers	01
			Languishing Weaves	01
			Tribal Weaves	01
		Design Development		02
		Marketing of Handloom products		02
		Start-up ventures/Producer company		01
			Total (B)	**19**
			Total (A + B)	**25**

2. For more information regarding eligibility criteria, age, experience, application form etc., details can be downloaded from the website of Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms (www.handlooms.nic.in) For any information assistance, applicant may contact nearest Weavers Service Centre (WSC)

3. Applications are to be submitted in dual mode, i.e., both online and offline. Online applications should be submitted through the My Handlooms portal (https://myhandlooms.gov.in). Additionally, offline applications, duly filled and completed in all respects, along with hand-woven samples (wherever applicable), a printout of the online application, and all other required documents, must be submitted to the nearest WSC latest by 23rd March, 2026.

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER (HANDLOOMS)

CBC 41102/11/0008/2526

Procedural delays, manpower shortages hinder police work

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Vehicle thefts were 8,413, but only 1,813 were resolved. Daytime and nighttime theft cases together accounted for over 4,300 cases, with just a fraction successfully solved. Many cases remain under investigation for months, some stretching over years.

Challenges and negligence

While police demonstrate efficiency in cracking high-profile robberies and snatching cases, general theft, house theft, and vehicle theft remain difficult to handle. Officials admit that procedural delays, manpower shortages, and administrative negligence hamper timely investigations. A police officer said, "We often act swiftly on certain cases, but the bulk of theft cases are lost in bureaucracy. Criminals continue to stay ahead of the system."

Citizens are increasingly anxious as thefts escalate. Raghav, a Bengaluru resident, said, "Even with cameras on every street, vehicle thefts and burglaries keep happening. Police arrest a few people, but most cases remain pending for years. It's frightening for families and businesses." Citizens highlight that daytime and nighttime thefts disrupt normal life and erode the sense of safety in the city.

Experts and citizens urge urgent police reforms, including better surveillance, faster case resolution, and community engagement in crime prevention. With more than 75% of cases unsolved statewide and Bengaluru bearing the brunt, there is a pressing need for action to restore public confidence. "Unless the police and government adopt stricter measures, the state's theft crisis is expected to worsen, leaving thousands of victims in continued distress," said N Gokula, an advocate.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: 19.01.2026

My Client's Sri. G. Srinivas S/o Gopal .D. aged about 54 years and Sri. Goutham .S. S/o G. Srinivas aged about 27 years both are residing at House No. 1275, 7th 'A' Main Road, 5th Cross, Near Renuka School, Prakashnagar, Bangalore – 560 021 has negotiated to purchase the Schedule Properties from its owner Sri. Narendra Babu .N. H. S/o Late. Hanumaiah .M. aged about 45 years residing at House No. 6, Vishwanagara, Near BGS Circle, Nagaruru Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, PIN – 562 123 for valuable sale consideration. If Any Person/s, firm/s, institution/s, Banks, etc., claiming to have any right, tittle and interest over the Schedule Properties or having any claims/ objections of whatsoever nature, to the proposed sale of Schedule Properties in favor of My client, are required to lodge/intimate their claims/ objections with documentary evidence in support thereof to the undersigned within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which our client shall proceed with the purchase of Schedule Properties without any reference to any such claim and the same if any shall be considered as waived and/or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

1. All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Survey Number 91/2 measuring an extent of 0.38 Guntas and 00.03 Guntas 'B' Kharab total measuring 1 Acre 01 Gunta situated at Hanchipura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:- **East by:** Land in Survey No. 90, **West by:** Land of Narendra Babu, **North by:** Land of Narendra Babu, **South by:** Land in Survey No. 80 and 96.

2. All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Old Survey No. 91/1, New Survey Number 91/3 measuring an extent of 0.19 Guntas and 00.01.08 Guntas 'B' Kharab total measuring 0.20.08 Guntas situated at Hanchipura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:- **East by:** Land of Siddagangaiah, **West by:** Land of Narendra Babu Survey No. 96/3, **North by:** Land of Siddagangaiah, **South by:** Land of Narendra Babu Survey No. 96/3.

3. All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Old Survey No. 91/1, New Survey Number 91/3 measuring an extent of 0.21 Guntas situated at Hanchipura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:- **East by:** Land in Survey No. 91, **West by:** Land in Survey No. 95, **North by:** Land of Gangalakshmamma, **South by:** Land of Gangalakshmamma.

ADVOCATE

SRI. RAMAKRISHNA .V. BA,LLB.,
Office at: No. 5303/05, Dadapeer Layout,
Sondekoppa Road, Nelamangala Town,
Bengaluru District District. PIN - 562 123.
Mob: 81972 94888

EVERFINE

BLISS UNPARALLELED

Straatosphere

Zenith of Perfection

More than just a residence!

Enjoy a privileged independent bungalow feel
with the infinite conveniences of an apartment.

Sky Villas

Infinity Pool
at
32nd Floor

Starts at
₹7+cr*

JP Nagar, Bangalore

3 & 4 BHK

960 606 6363 | 960 606 2727

www.everfinegroup.com

With diversion channels blocked, Seegehalli Lake swimming in sewage

Repeated complaints over sewage inflow persist as poor maintenance, faulty diversion channels and agency confusion worsen lakes water quality

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Residents and lake activists have expressed concern about pollution of water in Seegehalli Lake. They have been complaining to the authorities concerned to fix the recurring issue on a permanent basis but in vain. Despite spending huge money for the developmental works, the lake continues to hit headlines for all wrong reasons.

Residents and lake activists alleged that the authorities have failed to maintain the lake by taking effective measures to prevent sewage from flowing into the water body. They pointed out that although crores of rupees were spent on constructing a sewage diversion channel, poor execution has rendered it ineffective. According to them, the channel lacks the required slope to ensure smooth flow of sewage into the main drain, resulting in dirty water overflowing into the lake and causing severe pollution.

Harischandra Prasad, a resident, said public money had been wasted due to poor planning and execution. "The authorities spent taxpayers' money to construct the diversion channel but failed to ensure proper slope. As a result, sewage overflows into the lake. This problem must be fixed at the earliest for the benefit of hundreds of people who visit the lake for morning and evening walks," he said, urging officials to appoint a qualified contractor for lake maintenance.

Echoing similar concerns, another resident, Vishwanath Reddy, said the lake engineer had failed to address recurring issues. "Whenever the diversion channel is choked with silt or garbage, sewage flows directly into the lake. Algae formation is clearly visible on the water surface," he said, adding that water quality has deteriorated steadily. Lake activist Balaji Raghotham said the transition of BBMP into the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has added to the confusion over accountability. "Residents and activists are unsure whom to approach for lake-related issues. Even after raising concerns on social media, there has been no response from lake engineers," he said, appealing to the authorities to ensure sewage is completely diverted away from the lake.

A resident, requesting anonymity, warned that the lake could turn into a mosquito-breeding ground if

Residents allege poor engineering and lack of accountability as sewage repeatedly enters the lake, worsening pollution and odour

Residents and lake activists warn that unchecked sewage, algae growth and foul odour threaten Seegehalli Lake, urging authorities to ensure accountability, proper engineering and swift corrective action

urgent steps are not taken. "There is a foul odour from the lake and poor water quality will discourage people from visiting. The authorities and elected representatives must act without delay," the resident said.

When Bangalore Mirror tried to reach the Bengaluru East City Corporation Engineer (Lakes), the official was not available for comment.

Soft-spoken defender Ilyas Pasha, Karnataka and East Bengal stalwart, passes away

Renowned for calm defending and flawless timing, the former Karnataka and East Bengal right-back leaves behind a rich footballing legacy

Footballer Ilyas Pasha breathed his last on Thursday. Pasha is said to have been suffering from cancer for some time now. He was 61 and is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters.

A committed and soft-spoken footballer, Pasha played in an unusual position for someone of his mild nature — defence — and made it his own. A dependable right wingback, he performed the role with great distinction for every team he represented. No left winger could get past him easily, thanks to his sharp reading of the game, impeccable sense of timing and ability to make clean, well-judged tackles. He had a natural knack for plugging gaps and breaking down opposition attacks, allowing goalkeepers behind him to play with confidence as he went about his job with remarkable calm and composure.

Pasha began his footballing career with Vinayaka Football Club, Vyalikaval, a north Bengaluru suburb where he also resided. His consistent performances soon brought him wider recognition, and in the 1985–86 season he was signed by Indian Telephone Industries, one of the most prominent teams in the domestic circuit at the time. From there, he went on to become a regular member of the Karnataka team in the Santosh Trophy, representing the state in the 1987 edition in

From Vinayaka FC to captaining East Bengal, Ilyas Pasha's journey blended discipline, courage and humility, earning respect nationally while he chose a quiet life beyond football.

Ilyas Pasha

Calcutta, the 1988 tournament in Quilon (now Kollam) and the 1989 championship in Guwahati.

The Guwahati tournament proved particularly memorable, with Pasha delivering strong performances as Karnataka reached the semi-finals before losing to Kerala under extraordinary circumstances. His showing did not go unnoticed, and in 1990 he signed for Mohammedan Sporting, Calcutta. After a season there, he made a high-profile move to East Bengal, a transfer that unfolded in dramatic fashion and later became one of his favourite stories to recount.

After impressing in the Federation Cup for ITI and Karnataka, Pasha found himself courted by East Bengal while discussions were still ongoing with Mohammedan Sporting. What followed was an unusual episode involving last-minute travel, rival club officials and an emergency landing that ultimately saw him sign for East Bengal. He went on to represent the iconic red-and-gold outfit from 1991 to the 1999–2000 season and also captained the side during the 1993–94 campaign. He was a trusted player under former coach Subhas Bhowmick.

At the international level, Pasha represented the Indian Youth team in the Asian Youth Championship in 1988–89 in Pakistan and the final rounds in Qatar. He had already made his senior India debut in the 1987 Nehru Cup and later featured again in the 1991 Nehru Cup under coach Mohammed Habib, as well as in the 1992 Asia Cup qualifiers.

After returning from Calcutta, Pasha largely withdrew from public life, choosing to stay away from the limelight. He lived quietly, rarely attending football events, and devoted his time to his family and a close circle of friends, leaving behind memories of a player admired as much for his character as for his reliability on the field.

— SS Shreekumar

Volunteers spark sustainability lessons through school supplies drive near B'luru

In a heartfelt initiative blending education, sustainability, and community service, Helping Heroes India Foundation, in collaboration with the Indian Ploggers Army, organized a distribution drive across three government schools and three anganwadi centers at villages near Bidadi in Bengaluru South. The campaign brought together volunteers who personally collected and delivered reference books, stationery, toys, and bags of pre-loved clothes to the children. In addition, 100 stainless steel dining plates were distributed to encourage students to move away from disposable and single use items, fostering a culture of reuse and environmental responsibility.

The initiative primarily benefited students from economically disadvantaged families, addressing both educational and daily needs. Shankara Murthy, Headmaster of the Government Higher Primary School, Kottagalu, said the school has a total strength of 52 students, most of whom come from poor households. "I want to thank the volunteers for distributing pre-loved clothes, reference books and stationery. It is a great help for our students," he said, adding that volunteers had assured the school of additional support in the coming days.

During the visit, Younes from Helping Heroes conducted interactive sessions with students, explaining the importance of sustainability

and how everyday choices impact the environment. Through simple examples, he highlighted how small steps such as reusing materials and avoiding disposable items can collectively make a significant difference.

Representing the Indian Ploggers Army, Plog Raja said the effort was aimed at helping schools gradually move towards zero-waste campuses. He stressed the importance of using pre-loved resources such as books, stationery and cutlery instead of continuously consuming new products, urging students to see reuse as both a habit and a way of life.

Muzamil from Helping Heroes said such initiatives, though small, could play a meaningful role in shaping children as responsible citizens. Volunteers from the Robin Hood Army also joined the drive, supporting the distribution and strengthening the outreach. Government Higher Primary School Headmistress Usha Kiran said 38 students received stainless steel plates. "Until now, students used to bring plates from home. With this support, they no longer need to do so," she said, thanking the volunteers for their contribution.

— Y Maheswara Reddy

IN HIGH COURT

Action against child begging to be streamlined

The Karnataka High Court on Thursday directed the state government to appoint a nodal officer to coordinate action among various departments and agencies on recommendations made to address child begging in the state.

The direction came while the court was considering a report submitted by the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA), which has proposed a range of measures aimed at rehabilitating children found begging on the streets.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice CM Poonacha noted that the recommendations would require coordinated action across multiple government departments and agencies. In its order, the bench said the State must appoint a nodal officer responsible for ensuring coordination among departments, organisations, and municipal bodies. The court also directed the government to examine the KSLSA report in detail and submit a comprehensive action plan. The State has been asked to place this report before the court within six weeks. **–BMB**

Breakup alone not grounds for criminal offence

The Karnataka High Court has set aside criminal proceedings against a Bengaluru-based advocate and his relatives, observing that criminal law cannot be used to penalise the failure of a personal relationship. The court held that the breakdown of a consensual relationship, by itself, does not amount to a criminal offence.

Justice M Nagaprasanna, while examining the case, said laws relating to sexual offences are meant to address situations involving deception, coercion or exploitation. They are not intended to criminalise relationships between consenting adults that later fall apart.

The case arose from a complaint filed in 2024, in which a woman alleged that the advocate had sexual relations with her on the assurance of marriage and later refused to marry her.

Calling the criminal case an abuse of the legal process, the High Court ruled that allowing the proceedings to continue would amount to misuse of the justice system. Consequently, the FIR and all related proceedings against the advocate and his family members were quashed. **–BMB**

Medical claim denial overturned, litigant gets relief

A retired IAS officer has secured relief from the Karnataka High Court after authorities under the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) rejected her medical reimbursement claim of Rs 13.17 lakh incurred during emergency treatment for her husband.

The High Court agreed with her submissions and found the rejection to be unjustified. The court observed that CGHS functions as a social welfare scheme and must be implemented in a manner consistent with the constitutional guarantee of the right to life. It held that rigid procedural requirements cannot override the need for immediate medical intervention in genuine emergency situations.

The court further reiterated that prior permission is not mandatory when treatment is urgently required to save a patient's life.

Setting aside the rejection, the High Court directed CGHS authorities to reimburse the claimed amount in full along with interest at 12 per cent, and ordered that the payment be made within a stipulated time frame. **–BMB**

Governor's truncated speech becomes legislature flashpoint

After Governor wraps up Assembly address in few lines, CM accuses him of failing to uphold constitutional duties, arguing that he deliberately read his own speech

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot on Thursday reduced his customary Joint Session address to the state legislature to just three lines, triggering a sharp backlash from Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who accused him of flouting constitutional norms and called him a "puppet" of the Centre. The brief speech included a greeting to the CM, Assembly Speaker UT Khader, Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti, opposition leaders, ministers, and members, followed by a promise to accelerate the state's development. Gehlot exited immediately after the short address, leaving ministers and legislators surprised.

Karnataka Governor Thawarchand Gehlot walks out of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, on Thursday

> **"Governor's address every year is meant to be government's speech, prepared by the cabinet, by reading his own version, he has ignored his constitutional responsibility**
> –Chief Minister Siddaramaiah

Assembly tensions

As Gehlot moved toward the exit, several Congress members, including MLC BK Hariprasad, attempted to block him, shouting slogans and seeking a complete speech. Security personnel intervened, but lawmakers continued to chant in protest, while BJP members countered with "Bharat Mata ki Jai." The incident marks the third standoff between governors and state governments in non-BJP-ruled southern states in two days, following similar episodes in Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

CM criticism

Reacting strongly, CM Siddaramaiah accused Gehlot of failing to uphold constitutional duties. He argued that the governor deliberately read his own speech instead of the one prepared by the state cabinet, violating Articles 163 and 176 of the Constitution. "The governor's address every year is meant to be the government's speech, prepared by the cabinet. By reading his own version, he has ignored his constitutional responsibility," Siddaramaiah told reporters. The CM indicated that the government is considering legal action, possibly approaching the Supreme Court, to challenge the governor's conduct.

Protocol issues

The episode disrupted the customary proceedings of the Assembly. Law Minister HK Patil gave a speech on the governor's address before the traditional obituary references, sparking objections from BJP members and the opposition. Patil also alleged that Gehlot had insulted the national anthem by leaving before it was played. Leader of Opposition R Ashoka demanded action against unruly behaviour during the address, citing House rules.

Wider pattern

Gehlot's brief speech follows similar confrontations in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. On Tuesday, Tamil Nadu Governor RN Ravi left the Assembly without delivering his address, citing "inaccuracies" in the text, while Kerala Governor Rajendra Viswanath Arlekar reportedly omitted parts of his speech that the government claimed he had suggested. Earlier, Gehlot had objected to 11 paragraphs in the government-prepared text, which included criticism of the Centre's policies, particularly on MGNREGA and fund devolution. Attempts by a ministerial delegation to resolve the deadlock did not succeed, culminating in Thursday's short-lived and contentious address.

'Disproportionate financial burden on apartments'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"It was informed through public notice that any non-compliance with the SWM bye-law will attract a penalty, Environmental Compensation in accordance with the CPCB guidelines, and action will be taken in accordance with the provisions of GBGA 2024. However, it has been observed that bulk waste generators have continued to dispose of the waste through unauthorised vendors," the notice issued by BSWML to one of the apartment complexes reads.

Notably, in December 2025, BSWML empaneled Mukka Proteins Limited as a processor and mapped it to the North and East City Corporation limits, along with nearby cross-boundary areas. This authorised the agency to engage with the bulk waste generators for the collection, transportation, processing, and disposal of waste in accordance with the SWM Rules.

However, apartment communities have termed this mandate by BSWML as a monopoly. They claim they are being forced into an unfair solid waste management system, despite their sustained engagement with the government over the years.

According to an apartment complex in North Bengaluru, while community representatives have met BSWML officials regarding the issue on multiple occasions, decisions have been deferred with assurances.

Apartment associations also complained that with the new vendor empanelment, apartments now have to bear a disproportionate financial burden.

They say, apartment residents, largely middle and lower-middle-income families, already face higher tariffs for water, pollution control approvals, fire safety renewals, and repeated compliance costs. They are willing partners in sustainable waste management, but seek fair pricing, transparency, and equality.

Representatives of Bangalore Apartment Federation (BAF) told BM that while the new empaneled vendor, the sole authorised vendor for bulk waste generators in the city, is charging Rs 12 per kg of solid waste, the earlier vendor (BBMP-empaneled) charged Rs 2 to Rs 3 per kg or equivalent lump-sum rates for similar services.

"There has been neither a public explanation of how this rate was arrived at nor any transparent tender-based justification. City-based NGOs such as Saahas or Hasirudala were carrying out scientific waste management in some parts of the city at Rs 5 per kg. However, these NGOs were also not considered," said the member.

BSWML, in its notice, has clarified that the Government of Karnataka notified a user fee last year, with a maximum service charge for bulk waste management capped at Rs. 12 per kg.

In the notices issued, BSWML has given the apartments three days to shift to the new vendor. Associations say this demand is impractical.

"Apartment communities have promoted in-situ wet waste processing since 2016. While many apartment complexes are composting wet waste, there is no compost buy-back mechanism, no green credits or recognition, and no incentive for segregation. BSWML should rather collect a parity-based user fee directly from apartments with no GST on bills raised to residents and apartments," said a member of an apartment complex in the East Bengaluru corporation limit.

Your Connect

jobs

SITUATION VACANT

ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTANT

WANTED Senior Accountant Experienced Tally, GST, TDS, Bank Reconciliation & Day to Day Accounting. Candidates Staying 7kms of JP Nagar 5th Phase Female Candidates only Call: 9731116034/ Share Resume siddhant@rohiniplywood.com

OTHER VACANCIES

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

MARKETING Executive (Exp Building Mtls & Interior works) & Chicken cutting boys & Office Incharge (Xerox Stationery & Job typing work) Shaninteriors26@gmail.com 91485 78880

RETIRED PERSONS

TOP MNC Hiring Rtd Banker/ Govt Emp/Housewives/ Freelancer & Business Owner Earning Opportunity 50K To 100k Mnthly. 9902076220/ 7892865632

REQUIRED Financial Consultants. Retd Govt Officials/ Tax Consultnts/ CA/CS/ Auditors/ Bankers/Housewives/Business Owners Call: 9902823423

WORK FROM HOME

EXCELLENT INCOME CRISIL AAA RATED TOP MNC IN BLR Hiring Rtd Govt, Pvt, Defence, Bank, Teacher, VRS, NRI, IT, CA, Sr.CITIZEN, HOUSEWIFE Age: 30-70 Yrs. Call: 9845673443 / 8073400868

TECHNICAL

ENGINEERS

QS / QA ENGINEER / MANAGER REQUIRED FOR A FIRE PROTECTION Company, Candidates With Experience, Call HR : 8951257222.

real estate

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

BENSON TOWN

PENTHOUSE ready to move 4.5BHK, 5bathroom, 3balcony +terrace, 3500 Sqft, 5.5Cr @ Benson Town, 2km Cnngham, 8088330330 www.govianu.com

CUNNINGHAM ROAD

4BHK 3Balcony, 1unit/ floor, 3200Sft High end Flats Govianu Cunningham, 100mtr frm Cunningham Rd, Last 1unit avlb. 8088330330, www.govianu.com

DOLLARS COLONY

3BHK, 2000 Sqft Luxury High end Flat for Sale, DOLLARS COLONY. For more details contact: 8088330330. www.govianu.com

JUDICIAL LAYOUT

4BHK, 4000 Sqft Luxury high end flats, Judicial layout gkvk, ONE Floor ONE Unit 100% floor FLAT Sale: 8088330330, www.govianu.com

MAGADI ROAD

3BHK, Luxury High End Flats Sale, Govindarajnagar Magadi Rd, Next to Royal Enfield shrw, OC received Last 2 units only, 8088330330, www.govianu.com

MATHIKERE

1900SQFT, Luxury High-end Flat with swimming pool, club house, in HMT ROAD 60 Feet Road. Call: 8088330330, www.govianu.com

RAJAJI NAGAR

3BHK, 2000 Sqft Luxury High end Flat for Sale, Rajajinagar main road near Navrang theatre. Phone 8088330330. www.govianu.com

SESHADRIPURAM

3&4BHK Luxury High-end Flats for Sale at Seshadripuram, 5min from Mantri Mall, Contact 8088330330, www.govianu.com

VIJAYA NAGAR

SITE FOR SALE
60x90
RPC Layout
VIJAYNAGAR

SALE: 60X90 West Facing WOC Road RPC Layout Only Genuine Buyers Contact: 6363250343/ 9845038343

YESHWANTHPUR

3BHK, 1500sqft Luxury High end Flat for Sale, OC received, in YESHWANTPUR, For more details please contact: 8088330330 www.govianu.com

OUTSIDE BANGALORE

CHIKMAGALUR

DUPLEX Villa with assured rental 1lakh per month for Sale part of 5 Star upcoming resort in Chikamagalur. Call 8088330330

MYSORE

3BHK High-end Luxury Flats, Govianu Gurikar Luxuria - Mysore, Zoo road, opposite to Gandhi park, Ready to occupy, 8088330330, www.govianu.com

TUMKUR

A) 15000SQFT TUDA approved site, Jaganathpura Tumkur B) 1200 SQFT TUDA site Belagumba Tumkur, near NH4. 8088330330

PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

COMMERCIAL PREMISES

YELAHANKA Commercial retail space for sale, with tenant paying 3L per flr, 3000sqft luxury one floor one unit 100% flr office space sale: 8088330330

COMMERCIAL retail space for sale with tenant paying 3L per flr, 3200sqft, Yeshwanthpur nr Kia showrm, one flr one unit 100% flr office space: 8088330330

SAHAKARNAGAR

Commercial retail space sale, tenant paying 2.5L per flr, 2500 sqft luxury one floor one unit 100% flr office space: 8088330330

INDUSTRIAL PREMISES

Industrial/ Warehouse
47500 Sq ft
@ KIADB
Hoskote, B.lore

NEW PEB building with 4 crane facility, Grade A construction. For more details Call: 98450 01628, 74834 45170, 77601 18279.

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Zaheeruddin Shukoor Ghani R/o 5/3B 3rd Floor, Bradshaw Street Nehrupuram Shivani Nagar B'lore-560051 have changed my name to G zaheer Uddin.

I Venkatesha Channaraya - patna Nanjundappa R/o Near Vinayaka Samyuktha Bhavana, Gowrikoppalu, Hassan-573202, changed my name to C.N.Venkatesh for all purposes.

I Anshu Anand Kumar Hedau W/O, Animesh Malviya R/o Flat No 803 , D Block Wing 1 , Kolte Patil Mirabilis , Horamavu Agara , Bengaluru , 560043 have changed my name to Anshu Hedau.

I, Bhagya Manjunatha W/o Manjunatha Marappa R/o No 20 37,6th Cross Road,9th Block, Malathahalli, B'luru 560056 Have Changed My Name To Bhagya Manjunatha Boraiah.

I, Ganshyam Ganpathlal R/o No. 965/966, 16th B Cross, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru-560064 changed my name to Ghanshyam Rathore for all purposes.

I, Vinayakumar Panigatti R/o #280,2n Cross,2nd Main, Annapurneshwari Nagar B'lore-560091 have changed my minor daughter name from Saanvi to Saanvi Vinayakumar Panigatti.

I state that Name is mentioned as Jaya Rakesh Jain in my Passport of Passport Number: Z3868588. But I would like to correct my name as per my Election Photo Identity Card (EPIC) of number RWR3121720 as Jaya Jain and state that Jaya Rakesh Jain and Jaya Jain are the same and one identical person vide affidavit no IN-KA57680512917748Y dated 21 Jan 2026.

I, Ganeshar S/o Ravi R/o 163/3/13,6th Cross,16th Main Residency School, Bassappa layout Virat Nagar, Bommannahalli B'lore-560068 have changed my name to R Ganesh.

I, JOTISH SUTHAR, R/O B-1504, GR Heights, JP Nagar 8th Phase, Bangalore 560083, have changed my name to JOTISH SUTHAR T. Henceforth, all records shall reflect my name as JOTISH SUTHAR T

I, KHUBRA JAMEEL, R/a.98 1st Main 4th Street Bhoopsandra Sanjaynagar, Bengaluru-94. I, have Changed my name to KUBRA SHAIK, Vide affidavit, dated 22/01/2026 Sworn before Notary: Meer Hassan Bangalore

I, MOOSA RAZA NAWAZ, R/a No.34/C, Kasa Residency, Flat N.301, 3rd Flr, 1st Main Road, Austin Town, BLore -47,Have changed to Mohammed Moosa Raza Nawaz. Vide Aff'dvit Dtd 22.01.26 Sworn before Notary-Devraj.S , Blore.

I, GANGANNA KRISHNAPPA previously known as GANGAPPA KRISHNAPPA, S/o GANGAPPA, resident of #1484, Manjunatha Swamy Nilaya, 5th Cross, Manorayana Palya, Bangalore North, R T Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560032, have changed my name from GANGAPPA KRISHNAPPA to GANGANNA KRISHNAPPA for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 06.12.2025 Sworn before Notary Leela, Bangalore.

I, SAVITHA TULASI CHANDRASHEKAR JAGADEESH W/o T C JAGADEESH R/at No. 1007/A, 6th Main, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, Mysuru- 570017 have changed my name to SAVITHA THOLASI JAGADEESH vide affidavit dated: 21/1/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I hitherto known as SHEHZANSHAREEF S/O SAGHEER SHARIFF DAD, R/o No 001 Scion Enclave Govindapoa Lane Kodihalli Main Road Hal 2 Nd Stage, Bangaluru Karnataka- 560008, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHEHZAN SHAREEF.

I, CHITRA MAGADI SUNIL residing at No 43, Flat No 101, Sneha Apartment, BEML 3rd Stage, 4th Main, RR Nagar, Bengaluru – 560098. I have changed my name to CHITRA SRINATH RAO vide affidavit dated 22/01/2026 sworn before notary B. Seshagiri Bengaluru.

I, KAMINI SUNDERRAJAN, wife of Anand S, residing at No. 121, Jayanthi Nilayam, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 4th Cross, Raghavendra Layout, Begur, Bengaluru – 560068, formerly known as KAMINI, S.KAMINI A SANDHIYA, KAMINI @ SANDHIYA S, KAMINI ALIAS SANDHIYA, and KAMINI @ SANDHIYA, have changed my name to KAMINI SUNDERRAJAN vide affidavit dated 27-12-2025 before S.JAYANTH, Notary Public, Bengaluru.

Bennett & Coleman
THE TIMES OF INDIA

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. All creatives marked as Advertorial, Spotlight and Promotional Features are to be treated as Advertisements. The Times of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of the products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and the owners of The Times of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

GALLERIA

BMS Educational Trust
BMS ACADEMY FOR PROFESSIONAL COURSES
In Association with
Sri Chaitanya ACADEMY

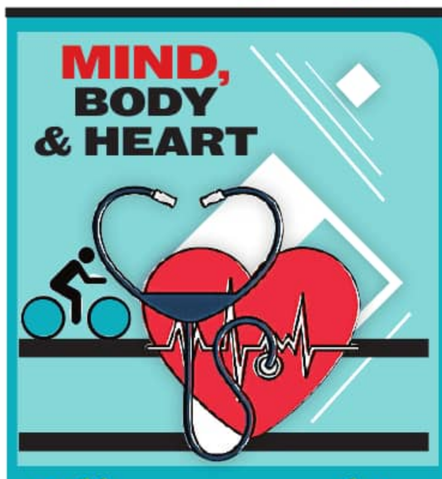
Coaching Classes for JEE, NEET & KCET with PUC/10+2

JEE (Advance + Mains)
NEET (Medical Aspirants)
KCET (Engineering Aspirants)

FEATURES
-PUC Classes @ BMSCW (PU) Campus
-Experience Faculties for PUC & JEE / NEET / KCET
-Daily Practice Papers (DDPs) & Regular Assignments
-Weekly Tests & Monthly Grand Tests with Detailed Analysis

Contact us at:
BMS Academy for Professional Courses
BMS College of Engineering Campus,
Bull Temple Rd, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-19
89717 36008 | 90365 10011
bmsiasacademy@gmail.com www.bmsacademy.org.in

LIMITED SEATS - ENROLL NOW!
Your success is our commitment.



All you need to know about...

Microbiome myths

At-home gut microbiome tests are becoming increasingly popular, promoted as tools for improving wellness, preventing disease and enhancing longevity. Costing anywhere from $100 to $500 or more, these direct-to-consumer kits claim to reveal detailed information about the bacteria living in the intestines. However, gastroenterologists warn that while interest is growing, the scientific evidence has not kept pace with marketing claims.

Microbial World
The gut microbiome plays a vital role in digestion, vitamin absorption, inflammation control and overall health. Studies have linked gut bacteria to conditions such as diabetes, liver disease, obesity and inflammatory bowel disease. Yet experts emphasise that it is often unclear whether changes in gut bacteria cause disease or occur as a result of it. Adding to the complexity, each person's microbiome is unique and can vary across different parts of the gut.

Testing Limits
Most microbiome tests analyse stool samples mailed to private laboratories and compare results to company-defined ideals. These tests are not regulated for clinical use, and methods vary widely. Doctors question how reliable the sampling is and whether stool truly reflects the entire gut environment.

Clinical Gaps
In clinical practice, stool tests are mainly used to detect infections, inflammation or cancer. Consumer microbiome reports rarely lead to clear medical action, with limited tools available beyond diet changes and antibiotics.

Better Habits
Doctors say gut health can be improved without testing through a fibre-rich diet, regular exercise, good sleep and medical care for serious symptoms.. —AP

Clutter-free habits

Small routines, smart storage, and mindful decluttering create calmer spaces

Start your day with a small act that creates a big impact—make your bed. Incorporating this into your wake-up ritual signals a fresh start and brings a sense of immediate accomplishment. This simple habit sets a productive tone for the day, boosts motivation, and creates a visually calm space that influences your mindset positively from the moment you wake up.

Clear surfaces
One of the easiest ways to declutter is to keep counters, tables, and work surfaces minimal. Less visual clutter translates to less mental clutter. Store everyday items out of sight using drawers, cabinets, or organisers. A clean surface instantly makes a room feel more open, breathable, and inviting.

Daily 10-minute tidy-up
Clutter builds up quickly when ignored, but a short daily tidy prevents chaos. Set a 10-minute timer and focus on one room or area. You can do this in the morning, midday, or when you return home. Consistency is key—small daily efforts save you from overwhelming clean-ups later.

Schedule declutter days
Plan regular decluttering sessions—weekly, fortnightly, or monthly—depending on your lifestyle. Treat these days as a "refresh button" for both your home and mind. Involving family or friends can make the process more enjoyable. Turn it into a game or challenge to keep energy levels high and stress low.

Create a landing strip
Designate a neat tray or bowl near the entrance for essentials like keys, wallets, or access cards. Dropping items here as soon as you enter the house eliminates frantic searches later and helps establish a smooth exit routine.

Designate spaces for important items
Everything should have a home, whether it's parcels, bags, or chargers. Create dedicated stations near the main door or specific rooms to reduce decision fatigue and anxiety. Label shelves or drawers if needed to make organisation intuitive and effortless.

Bins and baskets
Stylish bins and baskets are excellent for managing everyday mess while enhancing décor. Choose materials like wicker or jute to add warmth and texture. These storage solutions hide clutter efficiently while maintaining an aesthetically pleasing environment.

Sort papers immediately
Mail, bills, and documents can pile up quickly. Address them as soon as they arrive—file, pay, or discard. Use a simple paper sorter and tackle these tasks first to prevent overwhelming paper clutter.

Digital organisation
Reduce mental overload by syncing your calendar across devices. Set reminders for appointments, deadlines, and tasks. Shared apps for family or household planning can streamline coordination and reduce miscommunication.

One in, one out rule
Adopt the habit of letting go of one item every time you bring something new home. Donate, recycle, or discard items you no longer use. This practice prevents hoarding, encourages mindful consumption, and keeps clutter under control.

Limit décor elements
Edit your visual environment by reducing excess décor. A minimalist approach feels sophisticated and calming. Rotate seasonal items instead of displaying everything at once to keep your space fresh without overwhelming it.

Smart storage solutions
Use clear boxes, labelled containers, and organisers in wardrobes, kitchens, and refrigerators. Smart storage saves time, improves accessibility, and makes maintenance effortless.

—Femina

MIRRORLIGHTS

Altered brain wiring, not severity, linked to suicide attempts in depression patients

A Korean research team has identified distinct differences in brain network connectivity among people with depression who have attempted suicide, suggesting that altered neural wiring—rather than simply more severe symptoms—may elevate suicide risk.

Researchers at Korea University Anam Hospital examined brain scans from 123 patients diagnosed with depression and compared them with 81 individuals in a control group. Using resting-state MRI, the team analyzed how different regions of the brain communicate when a person is not engaged in a specific task. This method helps reveal underlying network patterns that may not be apparent through symptoms alone.

The study found that patients with a history of suicide attempts showed significantly weaker functional connectivity between the visual cortex and the frontal lobe. The visual cortex is responsible for processing and reconstructing visual information by integrating sensory input with memories and emotions, while the frontal lobe plays a critical role in judgment, decision-making, and emotional regulation.

According to the researchers, reduced communication between these regions may prevent internally generated images or distressing memories from being effectively regulated by the frontal lobe. This disruption can impair emotional control, making some individuals more vulnerable to suicidal behavior during periods of psychological distress.

The analysis also revealed a link between childhood physical neglect and weakened connectivity in the same brain circuits. Patients who reported higher levels of neglect early in life tended to show poorer communication between the visual cortex and frontal regions, supporting the idea that inadequate care during childhood can affect long-term brain development and emotional regulation.

Lead researcher Han Kyu-man noted that suicide attempts in depression may reflect differences in brain network structure rather than symptom severity alone. The findings highlight the importance of incorporating brain-based assessments into suicide risk evaluation. The study was published in the January issue of a journal by the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology.

If you or someone you know shows warning signs of suicide, contact Korea's Suicide Crisis Hotline at 109. For foreign-language mental health support, call the Danuri Portal helpline at 1577-1366.

— Gettyimagesbank

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES
PRESENTS
BANYAN TREE'S
Ruhaniyat
SEEKING THE DIVINE
25 YEAR
Saturday, 24th Jan 2026 | 6:15 pm
A GLIMPSE OF BAUL WORLDVIEW - Uttam Das Baul
SPANISH MYSTICAL COMPOSITIONS - Eva Serrano
SO SAID THE MYSTICS OF GUJARAT - Hemant Chauhan & Group
AFRICAN KORA STRINGS & MYSTIC SONGS - Dawda Jobarteh (Gambia)
KABIR CHAURA - Mir Mukhtiyar Ali & Group
QAWWALI - Chand Nizami & Group
Jayamahal Palace Hotel, Bengaluru
Conceived & Produced by
Banyan Tree
We bring performances aLIVE
Tickets on bookmyshow.com or Scan QR Code
For premier seats & details:
9152282553 / 9323930139

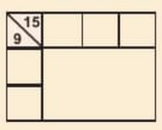
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

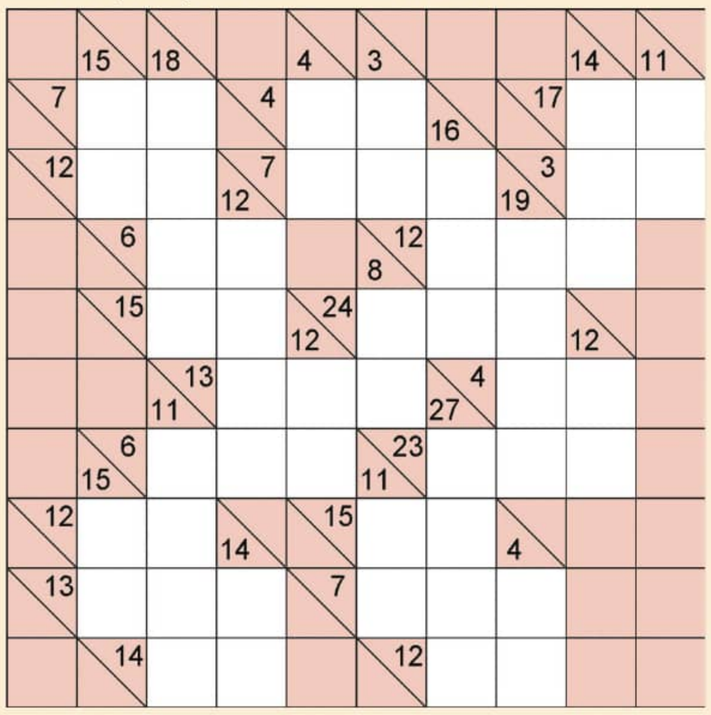
[0.5((−2(1+2))(10))] = ?

Kakuro

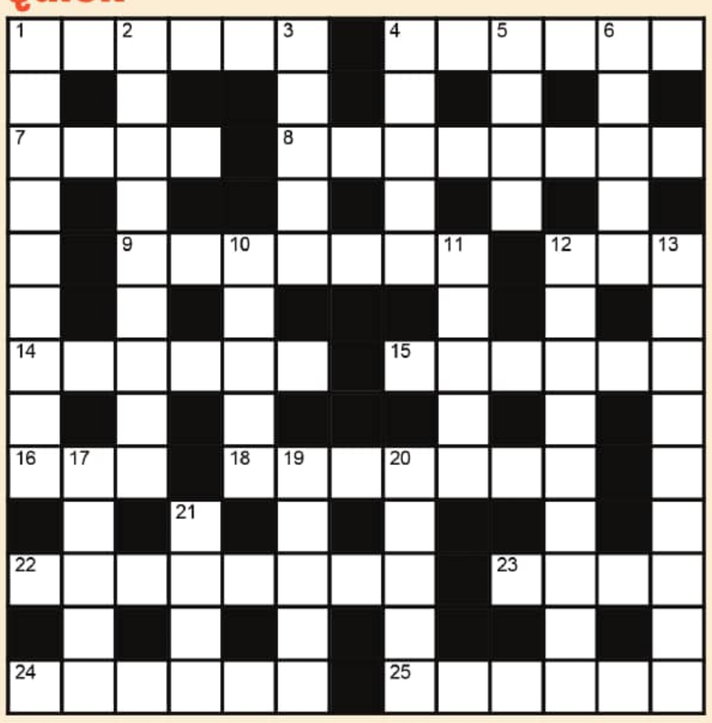
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Commences (6)
4 Victims of Hansen's disease (6)
7 Discourteously unmannerly (4)
8 Impede (8)
9 Park in Bangalore's Central Business District (7)
12 King's title, for short (3)
14 Absorbed (4,2)
15 Barely sufficient (6)
16 Female ruff (3)
18 Flee (3,4)
22 Enclosed, inner or interior (8)
23 Having no company (4)
24 Children (6)
25 Takes some liquid as food (6)

DOWN

1 Weather glass? (9)
2 Eros or Cupid? (3,2,4)
3 Took an oath (5)
4 Cowboy's rope (5)
5 Impudent (4)
6 Happen again (5)
10 Supplementing with difficulty (5)
11 Colourful parrot (5)
12 Period following nuptials (9)
13 Huge punches (9)
17 Bored languor (5)
19 Sea-eagles (5)
20 Was unwell or was sick (5)
21 Mexican money (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: I EQUALS U

HL HA B GTDDTE XUVIAHTE LMBL ZTI DBFU LMHEPA OULLUN OZ LBVFHEP BOTIL LMUD.

Linemaro

You wanna know what's beautiful? Read the first word again

Mindchow

The books that the world calls immoral are books that show the world its own shame

Joke of the day

What did the farmer call the cow that had no milk?
An udder failure

Loop

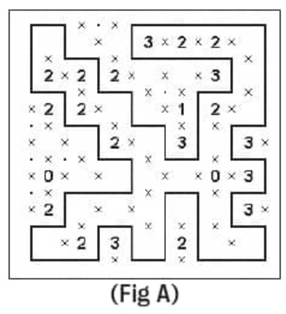
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

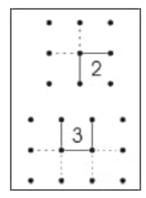
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

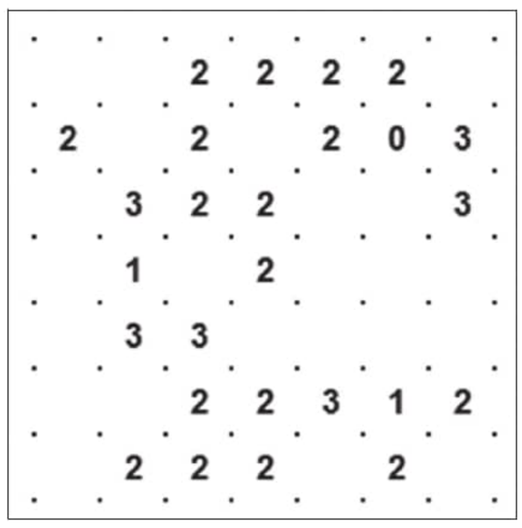
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



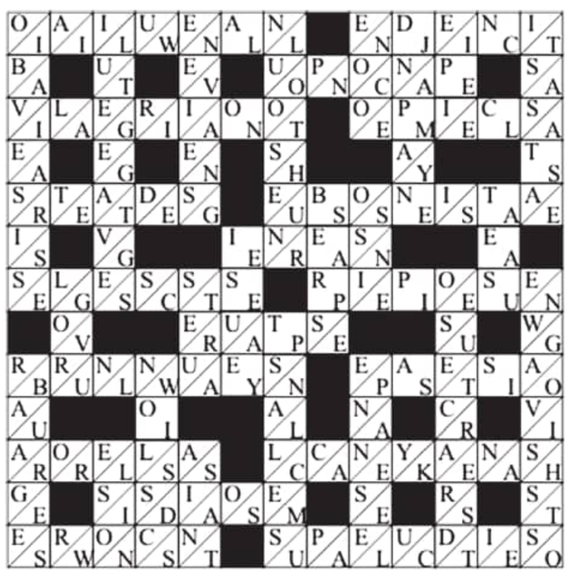
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6		G		
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 Reaps; 6 Ugg ie; 7 Ligne; 8 Pest E; 9 R sort

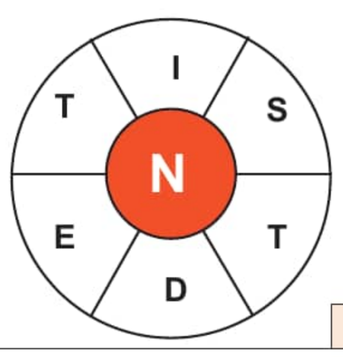
DOWN

1 Gaits; 2 To Pin; 3 GRE eg.; 4 Lurer; 5 SS Epe

Mensapuzzle

Which number is the odd one out in each shape?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

14 Average; **16** Good; **18** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

					7			2
	2	8					6	
7			8			1	5	
8	3							7
	9	7		1		5	4	
2							1	6
	8	2			4			1
	5					9	7	
3			6					

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 14

1 3 5 6

Medium = 11

2 2 3 7

Hard = 15

3 9 3 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

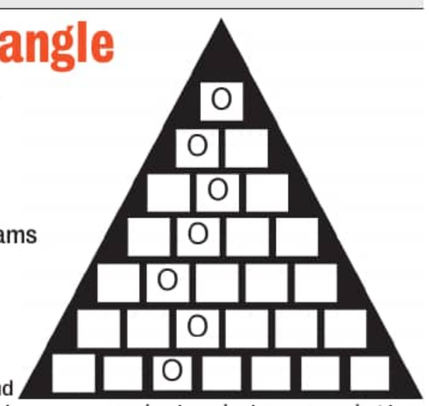
Differences: 1. Mirror is missing. 2. Headrest is added. 3. Officer's arm is moved. 4. Pocket is different. 5. Awning is smaller. 6. Shop window is not as wide.

Riddler

Every clue below can be answered with a two word phrase in which each word contains OR. Your job is to figure out what they are. **1.** Person on an assembly line **2.** Whiskey made from ears of a certain vegetable **3.** Vet with an equine practice **4.** 1970s–'80s tennis champ from Sweden

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number 8
2 Overdose, abbr.
3 Female deer
4 Performs
5 Planted seeds
6 Put away
7 Crammed for exams

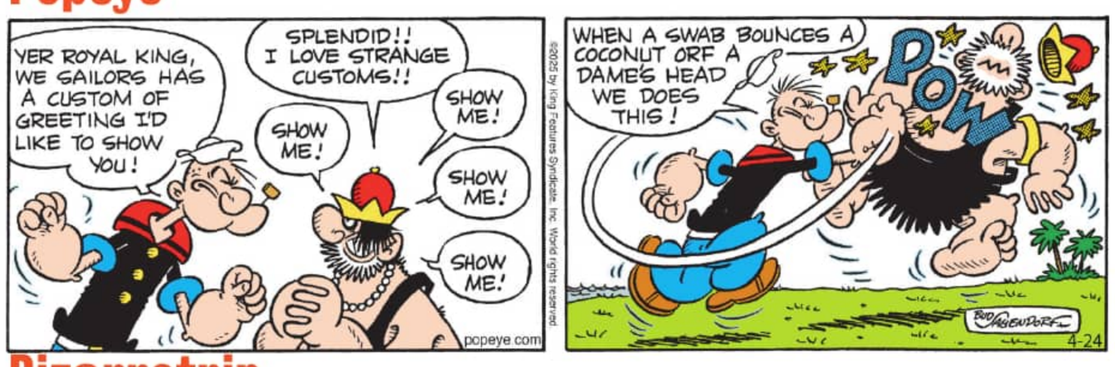


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye

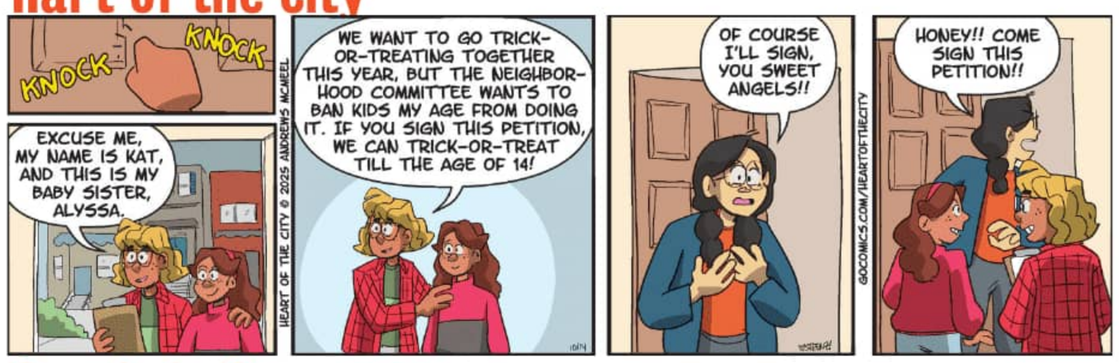

YER ROYAL KING, WE SAILORS HAS A CUSTOM OF GREETING I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU!
SPLENDID!! I LOVE STRANGE CUSTOMS!!
SHOW ME!
SHOW ME!
SHOW ME!
SHOW ME!
popeye.com
WHEN A SWAB BOUNCES A COCONUT ORF A DAME'S HEAD WE DOES THIS!
POW
BUD SAGENDORF
4-24

Bizarrotrip

Wayno & Piraro 10-14-25
No thanks. I don't have any more animal pelts to trade, and, anyway, what is undercoating?
Dist. by King Features
BIZARRO.COM ©2025 BIZARRO STUDIOS

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


KNOCK
KNOCK
EXCUSE ME, MY NAME IS KAT, AND THIS IS MY BABY SISTER, ALYSSA.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
WE WANT TO GO TRICK-OR-TREATING TOGETHER THIS YEAR, BUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE WANTS TO BAN KIDS MY AGE FROM DOING IT. IF YOU SIGN THIS PETITION, WE CAN TRICK-OR-TREAT TILL THE AGE OF 14!
OF COURSE I'LL SIGN, YOU SWEET ANGELS!!
@OCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY
HONEY!! COME SIGN THIS PETITION!!

Crankshaft

I DON'T EVER REMEMBER SEEING SO MANY DEER AROUND HERE BEFORE.
THAT'S BECAUSE WE NOW LIVE IN THE W.U.I.
WU...?
'WILDLIFE URBAN INTERFACE.'
IS THERE ANYTHING ANYMORE THAT DOESN'T HAVE AN ACRONYM?
© 2025 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
BATIUK & DAVIS
tombatiuk.com/books
10-14

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

Your year is energised by learning, communication, and local community connections. Short trips and expanding your skills will open valuable new doors. Speak your truth with confidence and share your ideas widely. A special bond with a sibling or close friend brings unexpected support and a burst of exciting, positive news.

Aries Mar 21–Apr 20

Supportive teamwork helps you complete delayed tasks smoothly. Family bonding deepens with heartfelt conversations. Music soothes your mind. A creative hobby brings joy and inspires a refreshing sense of personal expression today.

Taurus Apr 21–May 20

Mental rest becomes important today. Financial discussions improve understanding at home. Investments show encouraging potential. Prioritise well-being and avoid unnecessary travel. Inner balance strengthens with mindful choices.

Gemini May 21–Jun 21

Work travel brings learning and clarity. Family gatherings deepen closeness. Romantic plans unfold beautifully. Singles trust natural timing. Harmony grows as you embrace patience and meaningful connection in every interaction.

Cancer Jun 22–July 23

Creative focus energises your workday. New collaborations elevate your reputation. Influential people recognise your dedication. Students grow through steady discipline.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Gentle rest brings renewed clarity. Family time enhances emotional warmth. Investment opportunities appear promising. New business ideas need more preparation. Balance returns as you listen to your inner guidance.

Virgo Aug 24–Sep 23

Busy responsibilities shape your day. Finances stabilise. Drive mindfully. Wellness may need gentle attention. Staying indoors supports healing. Productivity increases as you prioritise organisation and thoughtful planning.

Libra Sep 24–Oct 22

Confidence uplifts your professional presence. Home sparkles with creative inspiration. Social events expand your network. Children need gentle guidance. Progress grows steadily as you balance work and personal commitments effectively.

Scorpio Oct 23–Nov 22

Family spending brings joy and comfort. Workplace responsibilities require presence and focus. Harmony strengthens through understanding. Children brighten your spirit. Parental wellness improves. Patience ensures smoother collaboration.

Sagittarius Nov 23–Dec 22

Effortless progress lifts your mood. New romantic feelings emerge unexpectedly. Lovers resolve challenges quickly. Job seekers find encouraging opportunities. Finances brighten. Heartfelt optimism guides your next steps confidently.

Capricorn Dec 23–Jan 20

Taking time to unwind brings clarity. Support from others strengthens emotional balance. Home opportunities appear promising. Creativity requires patience.

Aquarius Jan 21–Feb 19

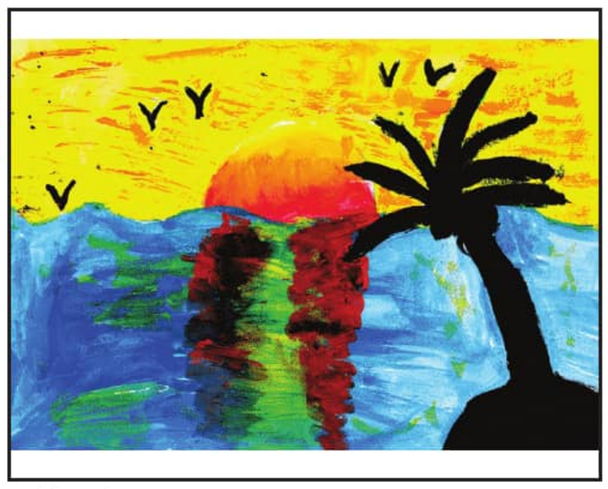
Focus feels challenging, encouraging needed rest. Family bonding brings comfort. Romantic possibilities blossom for singles. Older children show heartfelt closeness. Gentle harmony supports peaceful progress.

Pisces Feb 20–Mar 20

Work stability grows with patience. Family matters need calm guidance. Travel plans require attentiveness. Financial conversations need care. Harmony improves as you remain grounded and attentive to delicate situations.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Anvi, Bengaluru

Manyaath, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru–560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

0.5(−2(3))(10))
0.5((−6)(10))
0.5(−60)=
−30

RIDDLER

1. Factory Worker,
2. Corn Liquor,
3. Horse Doctor &
4. Bjorn Borg

FAST FIVE

A	P	E	R	S
G	I	G	U	E
I	N	G	L	E
S	T	E	E	P
T	O	R	R	S

QUOTE UNCODE

It is a common delusion that you make things better by talking about them.

STRIKE OUT

O	I	L	W	E	L	L	■	E	J	E	C	T	■	■
B	■	U	■	V	■	U	N	C	A	P	■	A	■	■
V	A	G	R	A	N	T	■	E	P	I	C	S	■	■
E	■	G	■	N	■	H	■	A	■	T	■	■	■	■
R	E	A	D	S	■	E	B	O	N	I	T	E	■	■
S	■	G	■	I	R	A	N	■	■	A	■	■	■	■
E	L	E	C	T	S	■	R	E	P	O	S	E	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
A	■	I	■	A	■	A	■	C	■	I	■	■	■	■
R	U	N	W	A	Y	S	■	P	A	T	I	O	■	■
■	■	O	■	R	A	P	E	■	U	■	G	■	■	■
E	R	O	L	L	S	■	L	A	N	K	A	N	S	■
E	■	I	■	D	I	O	M	■	E	■	S	■	T	■
R	N	S	T	■	S	A	L	U	T	E	S	■	■	■

QUICK

M	I	N	O	R	S	■	D	R	I	N	K	S	■	■
I	■	U	■	S	■	E	■	O	■	R	■	■	■	■
N	T	E	R	N	A	L	■	L	O	N	E	■	■	■
■	■	N	■	P	■	R	I	■	M	■	K	■	■	■
R	E	■	G	E	T	A	W	A	Y	■	A	■	■	■
E	■	V	■	N	■	A	■	■	E	■	M	■	■	■
T	O	O	K	I	N	■	S	C	A	N	T	Y	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	K	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
M	■	F	R	E	E	D	O	M	■	H	R	H	■	■
O	■	O	■	R	■	S	■	T	■	U	■	■	■	■
R	U	D	E	■	O	B	S	T	R	U	C	T	■	■
A	■	O	■	W	■	A	■	E	■	E	■	■	■	■
B	E	G	I	N	S	■	L	E	P	E	R	S	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE

A = 12, B = 25. They are the only even number or only odd number in each ellipse.

BULL'S EYE

dent, DENTIST, dine, dint, inset, nest, send, sent, sine, snide, stein, stint, tend, tent, tine, tined, tint, tinted

SUDOKU

3	7	4	6	9	1	8	2	5
1	5	6	3	2	8	9	7	4
9	8	2	5	7	4	6	3	1
2	4	5	7	8	9	3	1	6
6	9	7	2	1	3	5	4	8
8	3	1	4	5	6	2	9	7
7	6	9	8	4	2	1	5	3
4	2	8	1	3	5	7	6	9
5	1	3	9	6	7	4	8	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE

0, OD, Doe,
Does, Sowed,
Stowed,
Swatted.

GO FIGURE

3 x 6 + 1 − 5 = 14
Medium
2 / 2 + 3 + 7 = 11
Hard
4 x 9 / 3 + 3 = 15
Easy

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 19, Issue No 017 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by Lokesh K.V. at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru–560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore–560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru–560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon–responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Rachel gets her star— Hollywood actor Rachel McAdams, known for her acclaimed performances in films such as "Mean Girls", "Sherlock Holmes", and "The Notebook", has been honoured with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Good combo

Director S Mahendar, known for sentimental movies, is joining hands with music director Hamsalekha aka Nadabrahma after a gap of two decades. Hamsalekha had composed the music for Gowdru helmed by Mahendar in 2004.

Now, Mahendar is set to handle the megaphone for Kembaraga in which Hamsalekha will score the music. "I am returning to direction after a gap of three years. My previous movie was Pampa Panchalli Parashivamurthy. I decided to direct this movie because of its script. A few producers had approached me earlier, but I could not oblige them due to some reasons. Now, I have agreed to direct this movie because it is aimed at all categories of audiences," said Mahendar.

The director said he has been busy with the script work and that the cast and crew selection is yet to be completed. "Our priority is to make a good script with all elements such as romance, sentiments, and comedy. As usual, the movie will have a good number of melodious songs. I am happy to have veteran music director Hamsalekha on board. The movie is expected to go on floors during the Ugadi," he said.

Unique title

The muhurat function of multilingual movie Zero to One was held at Mahavishnu Temple, Ejipura recently. Nagaveni Santosh, who was trained in direction and acting in Mumbai for five years, debuts as a director and hero with this film that will be made in Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, and English.

Nagaveni Santosh said that this is a motivational movie. "The movie has a message to society about the importance of nature. The movie will go on floors on February 2. It will be filmed in and around Bengaluru. I have been trying to direct a movie for the last 13 years. I am very happy to reach my long-pending goal," said Santosh.

Avadoota Arjun Guruji, who was chief guest at the event, appreciated the team for embarking on a task to offer not only entertainment but also a message.

The movie has two heroines – Manisha Bhat and Rakshita Gowda. "I am making my debut as a heroine with this movie. The story of the movie is very good. It conveys a message to youths to accept success and failure with the same equanimity," Rakshita Gowda said.

IN HER VOICE

Rani reveals how her voice never made it to her first film

Rani Mukerji is busy with the promotions of her upcoming film, 'Mardaani 3'. Ahead of its release at the end of the month, she joined her friend and filmmaker Karan Johar for an interactive session. During the conversation, the actress reflected on her 30-year journey in cinema. She also talked about how her husky voice during the initial days of her career was met with skepticism. While talking about 'Ghulam', Rani revealed her voice was dubbed in the movie. She said Aamir Khan was the one who had to tell her that her voice wouldn't make it to the film. Rani said, "As a newcomer, you don't have much of a choice... It was a big thing for me to do a film opposite Aamir because he was one of the superstars. So I learned later from Vikram, who's my director, that it was a decision taken by probably Vikram, Mukesh ji, and Aamir, but they made Aamir become the bad cop."

Rani revealed that Aamir Khan came to her to explain the situation with logic. She said, "Aamir kind of explained to me that for films, we have to sacrifice certain things for the best of the film. Probably your voice is not apt for the character."

Rani revealed that the decision to dub her voice was "upsetting" for her. She added, "But obviously I couldn't show the fact that I was upset because you need to be a team player whenever you're part of a film."

She said, "Even if there are personal disappointments, it doesn't matter as long as the intent is true for the film."

Rani also got emotional and revealed that Karan Johar trusted her voice in his film 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai'. She said, "I remember that day we were shooting for the teaser. Karan came up to me and said, 'Rani, are the people dubbing your voice in 'Ghulam'?' And I said yes... He said, 'Did you dub your first?' I said, 'Of course I dubbed my first film. So he said, 'I love your voice, and you will dub for my film.' And thanks to you, Karan, I was able to retain my voice." —ETimes

Back off paps

Bipasha Basu stepped out with her family in Bandra, Mumbai recently. During the unusual public appearance alongside her daughter Devi, she took steps to shield the child from paparazzi attention and seemed quite upset when one tried to take a photo.

Bipasha Basu, her husband Karan Singh Grover, and their little girl Devi were out and about on Thursday. She stepped from the car cradling Devi, as Karan trailed with a bag on his shoulder. The moment she clocked the paparazzi cameras, annoyance flashed across her face and she promptly hid Devi's face, striding to the building, snapped at a photographer, "Kaun ho aap? (Who are you?)".

Bipasha posts heartwarming family moments and playful memories with her daughter on social media. She and her husband took Devi on a beach getaway and shared vacation photos and videos online.

Karan Singh Grover and Bipasha Basu met initially during the 2015 shoot of 'Alone'. They wed in April 2016 and became parents November 12, 2022.

—ETimes

All praise for PC

Filmmaker SS Rajamouli is all praise for actress Priyanka Chopra as he reviewed the trailer of 'The Bluff'.

Taking to Instagram Story, Rajamouli wrote, "Priyanka is unstoppable and always surprises.... what a commanding presence and fiery performance. Looking forward to 'The Bluff'."

Priyanka thanked Rajamouli for his heartfelt words.

In an Instagram post, she wrote, "Thank you for your kind words sir."

Notably, Priyanka is the leading lady of Rajamouli's next directorial 'Varanasi'.

In the film, Priyanka will be seen playing Mandakini. Mahesh Babu and Prithviraj Sukumaran are also a part of Varanasi, which is set to release during Sankranti 2027.

The film's title was officially announced at the grand GlobeTrotter event, held at Ramoji Film City in Hyderabad, last year in November. The teaser was also shown on a huge screen, which gave a sneak peek into the film. —ANI